

**Assistant Superintendent Report  
Region One Schools  
December 2019**

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**CABE/CAPSS Conference**

Dr. Vogel and I attended the annual CABE/CAPSS conference in Mystic, CT in mid-November. We were joined by Stacie Weiner from the Region One Board and Deborah Rathbun from the Sharon Center School Board. The intent of this conference is to provide board members and school administrators with professional development opportunities in a series of workshops. The workshops include topics that range from the ABCs of good board governance to how school administration and Boards can work together to implement various strategic initiatives. Deb and I attended a workshop about the improvement of family and school relationships held by members of the State Department of Education. I have shared the materials with all of the Region One principals to help support their activities in this area. Additionally, we attended a presentation about some work that the Canton Board of Education has done in the area of social emotional intelligence.

**Curriculum and Instruction**

**Curriculum Audit** - I have reviewed the EdAdvance curriculum audit report for grades K-3 English Language Arts. A summary of its findings indicates that there is work to be done in these areas:

- Identification of priority standards for each content area by grade level
- Alignment and sequencing of instruction according to the standards - both within and among grade levels
- Identification of common content-based resources
- Improvement of assessment (alignment with standards, purpose, reliability and fairness)
- Integration of reading, writing and speaking and listening instruction
- Embed opportunities for personalized learning to meet the needs of each learner

We will begin to address this work with the teachers during the January 3rd Regional professional learning day. I will also be working with the EdAdvance consultants to make a plan for work to be done later this year and during the summer.

**Professional Learning**

**Visit to Champlain Valley Union High School (CVU)** - On November 18 I accompanied Mr. Strever and a team of five HVRHS teachers on a visit to CVU. The school visit was prompted by a recommendation made by Allison Zmuda, who currently is working with schools in Region One and who has helped CVU create their personalized learning programs. The visit was quite informative due to the fact that the school has been undergoing a deliberately evolving transformational process for about fifteen years and therefore is a good authentic example of the successful integration of the portrait of a graduate, personalized learning programs, and standards-based grading. We had a lot of time to meet with the CVU teachers and administrators and to learn about the process that they have followed thus far and the work that they have yet to complete. Those of us from Region One felt that there are many “irons in the fire” at HVRHS that align with the types of programming that has been adopted at CVU and therefore they are a good school for HVRHS teachers to use as a reference as they continue to develop the HVRHS portrait of a graduate, personalized learning and grading practices. We have been invited to bring a team of middle school administrators and teachers to visit in the spring. I will be making plans to do so in mid-March.

**Continuation of Personalized Learning** - In October, November and December, each K-8 school has been continuing its work with Bena Kallick or Allison Zmuda in the area of Personalized Learning (PL). Each school has been working with either Dr. Kallick or Dr. Zmuda to continue to develop personalized instructional strategies as well as opportunities to instruct students about the Habits of Mind (those habits that contribute to student engagement). I will be speaking with these two women in December to discuss our plans for the 2020-21 school year.

**Teacher Evaluation** - All of the K-8 principals and teachers who are complementary observers met with Amy Tepper at North Canaan Elementary School on November 5. We spent the day observing science classrooms so that we are able to develop a common understanding about the “look fors” in an NGSS classroom.

**School Counseling PLC** - All school counselors and psychologists met on November 13 to discuss the scope and sequence for instruction about human trafficking. Deanna Barry from Women’s Support Services presented an outline of the LOVE 146 curriculum that she will be using to assist the counselors with their lessons. The group also discussed their plans to work together to develop common protocols for behavioral interventions.

### **Career/Work Experience Program**

This past month was mostly dedicated to information gathering about potential future programs that could benefit HVRHS students. These are all works in progress. They include:

- Sharon Hospital Job Shadow program in partnership with EdAdvance
- Future Bankers program with NRWIB and Salisbury Bank
- American Job Center-Torrington

Career Experience has been working with faculty and staff to enhance curriculum and create programming for students. This includes working with:

- Caitlin Messina and Joseph to enhance personalized learning course
- Tyler Burdick and Jacob to enhance personalized learning course
- Heather Strid and Tyler Burdick to enhance interview skills for their students and create relevant programs
- School Counseling and Assistant Principal Schibi to identify and work with students who require support for after graduation employment and career planning
- Warren Prindle and John Lizzi to link curriculum to career interactions with career professionals

Please click on this [link](#) to view Dr. O’Neill’s detailed report

### **English Learner Program Coordination**

#### **Region 1 Schools EL Population**

<b>School</b>	<b># of ELL Students</b>
Housatonic Valley Regional High School	6 students (Spanish)
Cornwall Consolidated School	6 students (Spanish, Arabic, Tagalog)
Lee H. Kellogg School	1 student (Spanish)
Kent Center School	2 students (Spanish)
North Canaan Elementary School	10 students (Spanish)
Salisbury Central School	12 students (Arabic, Spanish, Chinese, French/Bulgarian)
Sharon Center School	0 students
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>37 students</b>

Mrs. Huber held the first EL Department meeting on October 31st at Central Office. The group discussed ways to improve communication and support for the EL families in our schools. Updates with regard to the EL population in Region One are as follows:

- Two EL students from Sharon moved to Salisbury this month. Mrs. Huber will continue working with them at their new school.
- North Canaan also received a new student from NY this month.

Mrs. Huber continues to work with the EL students at Salisbury, Sharon (first half of Nov.), and North Canaan on a daily basis to improve their English proficiency. She also meets bi-monthly with a team of teachers at Kent Center to plan for the ELs there. All RegionOne EL students were given the diagnostic assessment for English proficiency in October and Mrs. Huber began administering the first progress monitoring assessment this month.